

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 5 and 8 have been amended. Claims 3-8 remain pending in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of Claims 3-4 and 6-7. Additionally, Applicants acknowledge the indicated allowability of dependent Claim 5, which has now been written into independent form and is therefore also submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Regarding independent Claim 8, this claim was rejected as obvious over Katsumi et al. (JP 06-346747) in view Mamoru (JP 2000-283011). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the following remarks, as well as the clarifying amendment made to claim 8.

Claim 8 recites power supply equipment for a motor vehicle comprising a motor generator, an inverter, a battery and electrical double layer capacitor. The battery has a plurality of different voltage terminals, including a positive higher voltage terminal and a positive lower voltage terminal. The capacitor is connected on its higher voltage side to the higher voltage terminal via first switching means and to the lower voltage terminal via second switching means.

As described in Applicants' specification with respect to the preferred embodiment shown in Fig. 5, the battery 6A has a plurality of voltage terminals that is, a positive 42 volt terminal, a positive 14 volt terminal and a ground terminal (see page 20, lines 25-28).

By contrast, neither Katsumi nor Mamoru disclose, suggest or even hint at power supply equipment including a battery with a plurality of different voltage terminals. Indeed, in the Office Action, the Examiner has not cited any particular aspect of Katsumi other than the reference numeral 3 showing its battery to meet Applicants' "plurality of different voltage terminals". Of course, as shown in Katsumi, reference numeral 3 discloses a conventional battery having only a positive and negative (GND) terminal. In view of these distinguishing features, Applicants have clarified Claim 8 to note that the "plurality of different voltage terminals" includes a positive higher voltage terminal and a positive lower terminal. Hence, Applicants submit Claim 8 is patentable over Katsumi in view of Mamoru.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit all of the pending Claims 3-8 are in condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is solicited.

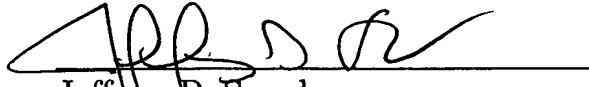
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit

Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381AS/50354).

Respectfully submitted,


Jeffrey D. Sanok
Registration No. 32,169

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CROWELL & MORING LLP
Intellectual Property Group
P.O. Box 14300
Washington, DC 20044-4300
Telephone No.: (202) 624-2500
Facsimile No.: (202) 628-8844

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330276